

Natural phenomena-Video

Task 1

Match words with their synonyms

eruption, ominous, ash, flakes, gritty, particles,
blanketed, billow, dire, treacherous, clogged,
stranded, toxic, stifling, deluge, trickling

alarming, covered, poisonous, blocked,
dangerous, coarse, hot, threatening, flowing
slowly, left behind, flood, wave, burned wood,
molecules, explosion, tiny pieces

Task 2

False/true/not given (F, T, NG)

1. The situation was far worse in towns and cities to the north of Spokane.
2. Once the ash hit the ground, it stayed there.
3. There was no way to escape the town once the ash started falling.
4. The ash that fell on the town was toxic.
5. The ash didn't affect crops as badly as some people predicted.
6. Today there is no trace of the ash that fell on the town 30 years ago.

Task 3

Choose the correct answer

1. What did the people of Spokane think when the volcano first erupted?
 - a. they thought the disaster wouldn't affect them
 - b. they were concerned about the possibility of ash falling on their town
 - c. it wasn't mentioned
2. What were residents in the town warned not to do?
 - a. go outdoors without a facemask
 - b. go to work
 - c. go outside
3. What happened to the motorists who tried to leave Ritzville on the Tuesday?
 - a. nobody knew
 - b. they manage to escape the town
 - c. they were stranded in their cars and had to be rescued
4. What happened to the ash that fell on Spokane?
 - a. it was washed away by rain
 - b. local residents were given the task of clearing it
 - c. it disappeared suddenly
5. When did life begin to return to normal in Spokane?
 - a. never
 - b. Wednesday
 - c. Tuesday
6. Who paid a surprise visit to the town on the Thursday?
 - a. President Jimmy Carter

- b. jazz musician Dizzy Gillespie
- c. President Richard Nixon

Task 4

THE DISCUSSION ON NATURAL DISASTERS

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS

- (1) What comes to mind when you hear the term 'natural disasters'?
- (2) What are natural disasters?
- (3) Have you ever experienced a natural disaster?
- (4) What was the last natural disaster you saw on TV?
- (5) Have you ever prepared for a natural disaster?
- (6) Are there often natural disasters in your country?
- (7) Do you think natural disasters are happening more frequently in the world today?
- (8) What's the worst natural disaster in your opinion?
- (9) Do you think the world should be more concerned about natural disasters or terrorism?
- (10) What's the best natural disaster movie you've ever seen?

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS

- (1) What's worse, natural disasters or manmade disasters?
- (2) Would you move if you lived in a country where natural disasters were common?
- (3) Why are so many natural disaster movies set in New York City?
- (4) Do you know anyone who could be called a natural disaster?
- (5) What are the worst natural disasters you can remember?
- (6) Are natural disasters acts of God?
- (7) Do you think world governments do enough to help people after natural disasters?
- (8) What would happen if a giant comet hit the Earth?
- (9) If a natural disaster hit your town, what would you do?
- (10) Why do you think natural disasters always seem to affect poor people most?